

LOVE LETTERS DELUGE the MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN in WASHINGTON



VERIL, the postman's ring
her, mees monotonous
when there's an acknowl-
edged beauty in the
home.

This is the novel experience of
Miss Eola Thornton Rice, recently
declared to be the most beautiful
woman in Washington, who, since
the award was made, has been fair-
ly deluged with letters proposing
marriage, requests for photo-
graphs, propositions to pose for
artists, to say nothing of letters
of congratulation and ordinary re-
quests to correspond with mat-
rimonially inclined strangers.

Distinct from all these is one let-
ter which is of quite differen-
tence, sent by a jealous Washing-
ton girl, who informs the winner
of the beauty contest that she does
not admire her type of beauty, and
proceeds to explain wherein she
considers the winner deficient.

Miss Rice began to hear from her
admirers immediately after her
photograph was published as the
winner of The Washington Times
beauty contest, and her mail con-
tinued to increase after the great
national contest closed in Chicago,
where she was awarded third hon-
ors, the winners of the various
State contests appearing before
the national judges in that city.

Came From Everywhere.

Some of these letters were from
nearby points, others came hun-
dreds of miles from more distant,
but none the less ardent, admirers,
who had become impressed with
Miss Rice's beauty, and imbued
with a desire to correspond.

Letters from friends and ac-
quaintances the Washington beau-
ty has endeavored to answer.
Those from unknown worshipers
and would-be correspondents and
husbands have met a less kind
fate, although they are preserved
as souvenirs of the conquest. Some
of this latter class have taken the
defeat of their bold plans rather to
heart, and in a number of in-
stances have written several times
before becoming thoroughly con-
vinced that the effort was hope-
less.

Unique among the entire collec-
tion, however, and one that should
be at first disposed of, is that let-
ter from the jealous girl who signs
herself "A Wash. Actress." This
person not only expresses her dis-
pleasure that Miss Rice has won
the contest, but includes a photo-
graph clipped from a magazine
which she says represents real
beauty, and which should have
been used as a model in the award.
Miss Rice and her friends, while
admiring the young woman's can-
dor, have been highly amused by
the manner in which she exploits
her views. The reason is obvious,
for the missive speaks for itself,
upon the opening lines:

"I Am a Wash. Girl."

"Wash., D. C., July 7, 1907.

"My Dear Miss Rice:

"As I am a Wash. girl of true

beauty, I feel it my duty to tell
you what a grave mistake The
Times made in selecting you as a
beauty. You could hardly be term-
ed as pretty, and as to beautiful—
NEVER. I should like to inclose
my photo, but, of course, you
would know me, as I am playing
here at a local theater now. Of
course, you know yourself you are
far from beautiful; when you go
out how often you see girls who
you could not compare to. *** I
myself have seen beautiful women,
when I say beautiful I mean beau-
tiful, not pretty. Study your face
and see if true beauty is on it. ***
Of course, when you speak of
Lillian Russell, Anna Held, or
Princess Henry of Pliss, you speak
of beauty, not because they are
what they are, for nature is the
same the world over. *** I myself
have no particular type of beauty.
I think a blonde as pretty as a
brunette; it is not the coloring
that makes one beautiful; the
most beautiful woman I have ever
seen is Mme. Camille De Narvillo,
now at the Theatre Royal, Madrid.
I don't wonder at The Times omit-
ting the theatrical world, but my
dear, I must truly tell you you are
far from beautiful. I write this to
give my true opinion, and that of
others with any sense. Trusting
you will receive this as truthful as
it is, I am,

"Very sincerely,

"A WASH. ACTRESS."

The magazine photograph in-
closed bears no name, but has
written across it, "This is true
beauty."

Asks for Photographs.

From Indiana comes a politely
worded request for a photograph.
It reads:

"I have been trying for hours to
ward a letter to you, which would
get what I want, and still not be
rude or full of self. But since your

picture has been in the papers you
no doubt have received an endless
number of letters just like this
one, so are used to them by now.
Without bothering you more, I
would like to ask you, very re-
spectfully, for permission to buy a
good picture of yours. I inclose a
print of the one I want, and if you
will be kind enough to tell me who
took it and write me an order so
I can get it, I will—well, I will
thank you."

An ardent Tennessee swain
opens up negotiations looking to-
ward matrimony, as follows:

"Your picture, observed by me
today, I notice also that it is be-
coming quite the custom to corre-
spond with the winners of beauty
contests. I take this opportu-
nity of becoming acquainted with
you with a view to matrimony. I
am thirty years of age, six feet in
height, and weight 176 pounds.
Would like to exchange photo-
graphs with you. I am in the
business, and keep an automobile,
and am amply able to give you a
good time. Your face in the pic-
ture is before me, and certainly
looks sweet to me and I will hope
to hear from you in the near fu-
ture. Sincerely yours,

Tennessee also surprised another
winner of the contest on Ninth Street.

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